## Haiiro Shounen Rock (Short Novel)

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(Short novel part for Haiiro Shounen Rock, from the Zetsubousei: Hero Chiryouyaku single. Translations of the other novels can be found HERE:)

This world is mad. Everything in this world is one color, monochrome; boring. Every single day, the same scenery moves along at the same exact speed. What is there to a life that rides on these rails?

I was disappointed today, as well. This world has completely changed from how it used to be. The world now has been transformed, little by little, by the big shots in the government, and all forms of discrimination and distinction have been abolished. As a result, in this space that is thoroughly managed, it's as if everyone has been born with the same face and the same voice. All for the sake of the absolute value known as "true equality."

The person beside me says, "This is a given, isn't it?" And the person next to him says, "This suits us perfectly, doesn't it?" Even their own values have been homogenized. Without even realized how terrifying that is, they go on with lives that have been laid out for them. But I hated that. I hated it, but...... There was nothing that I could do. All I could do was pray for a life that was different from everyone else.

I was powerless.

And because of that, I was disappointed today, as well.

It seemed that several people with color had violated the law again, and been executed.

However, even in this grey world, there was one thing that stood out. The one that inspected me—her.

We were ones that had been able to make it into companies after working under absolute control. And the ones that served as inspectors for that were staff such as her.

We had never had a conversation. We always kept a distance between us, and she simply checked me in several areas in a unilateral fashion. In the first place, we were all supposed to look the same, as even if we were to speak, she probably wouldn't be able to distinguish me from the others.

What sparked my interest in her was a very trifling matter. I had felt like she was smiling at me, who went through life the same as usual. Looking back at it now, it might have been a misunderstanding. However, I changed since that moment. I wanted to escape from this standardized world, where everything was unified. I kept praying for that, always......always.

And, unexpectedly, that wish was granted. That day, I had been on the belt conveyer as usual. However, after she had finished checking me, I was transferred to a different rail than everyone else. She must have heard my wish and granted it for me! Yes! With this, I could say goodbye to this grey world! That was what I believed.

However, when I looked at her face, for some reason, she had a sad expression on her face. What was wrong? Be happy! My wish has been granted!

I looked away from her face, and saw at the end of the rails, an unfamiliar word: "Disposal."

The view of today was excellent.